

The Plattsmouth - Journal

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The republicans in the legislature, almost to a man, are opposed to a non-partisan judiciary. Isn't that funny?

The biennial elections amendment should pass both houses of the legislature without any trouble. But will it?

April 4 is the date fixed for the legislature to adjourn. They will have to serve several days then without pay.

Railroads are not the only ones enjoined from rebating. California is warned by the president not to rebait the Japanese.

When you vote for Bernard G. Wurl for city clerk you can rest assured you are voting for an excellent citizen and one who is abundantly well qualified for the office.

A Kansas City man waited until he was 88 to be divorced. His wife had left him thirty years ago. Such scandalous haste to rush into the divorce court should be frowned upon.

Vice President Creel of Mexico, whose resignation is forecasted for the immediate future, is setting an admirable example for the Hon. James Schoolcraft Sherman of Utica, N. Y.

Russia appears to have somewhat the idea of government expressed by Napoleon III when a friend asked him how he hoped to retain himself in power. "Have a war every four years," he said.

John Bauer, Jr., and John Schulof are both good men for the school board. They are among our best citizens and have the best interests of the city schools at heart.

Russia appears to be quite confident it can whip China. Yet not many years have elapsed since Russia was equally sure that whipping Japan would be an easy matter.

The Missouri Pacific bandits near Coffeyville, Kansas, Thursday night held the train for more than two hours. But such a slight infraction of the time card created no curiosity on the Missouri Pacific, so nobody went to the help of the train.

The good roads bills before the legislature must be of the kind to suit the farmers or they won't pass. While there are not many farmers in the senate, there are forty-eight in the house. This means a great deal when it comes to tinkering with the law, in which they are about as much interested as any other legislation.

Everyone who knows George Dodge is well aware of the fact that he always fills the bill wherever you place him. He has served on the city council and school board and has made a splendid record in both positions. The people of the Fourth ward will elect him to the council because they know he will serve them faithfully.

The voters of Plattsmouth are disposed to support men for office this year solely upon their qualifications and general good citizenship. And that is right. Excitement and abuse of candidates on either side has prevailed too freely in the past city elections. Vote for the candidates you know have served you faithfully and will do so again.

John P. Sattler has always favored anything that was for the best interests of Plattsmouth. As to municipal ownership of public utilities, the

people have the right to speak their sentiments at the polls as to whether they desire these things or not. Mayor Sattler believes in "letting the people rule" in such matters in which they are directly interested.

Adam Kurtz, who is up for reelection as councilman in the Second ward, has proved a good man for the place. He has served for two years and has done his duty and filled the position in a manner both creditable to himself and the people residing in the Second ward. Adam Kurtz is an old resident, honest as the day is long, and taxpayers can depend upon him doing right at all times.

The government is to issue Panama bonds in denomination of \$100, \$200 and up. These bonds will bear a much smaller rate of interest than the coming Titusville school bond issue. This will give people with small means a chance to buy sound securities in amounts proportionate to their savings. The parallel will hold good for Titusville. Give the people a chance to buy school bonds in small denominations.

Four definite promises made in the platform of the Grand Island convention have been completely and substantially redeemed by the democrats in the legislature. They are: Ratification of the federal income tax amendment; the submission of an initiative and referendum amendment to the state constitution; the submission of an amendment to the state constitution permitting cities to frame their own charters; provision for a school of agriculture in the southwestern section of the state.

Wars and rumors of war. Added to the Mexican situation the Jap spectre is now in imagination hovering over the United States "colonies" in the Pacific, where it is reported that military forces are being increased and fortifications strengthened. President Taft has not yet descended to enlighten the American public on his reasons for action, on the Mexican border or in the Philippines. In a fortnight, unless the explanation is forthcoming in the meantime, the congress will ask him why.

Attendance at Lenten services throughout the country is reported as gratifyingly large. Lent fills a great spiritual need and affords all an opportunity to turn from the material things of life to those which feed and elevate the soul. The conscience is quickened, moral perception stimulated and an introspection promoted which lays bare religious shortcomings and encourages the striving for higher ideals. It strengthens the spiritual sense. Periods of contemplation in the solemn houses of worship awaken emotions long un-felt and give speech to the silenced voice of the soul. The world is always better for this period of self-denial and worship, for it brings man closer to his God.

The cost of coal, if measured by the value of the lives lost in mining in Pennsylvania, would reach an astounding figure. The annual report of the chief of the state department of mines shows that 1,125 men were killed to mine 231,966,070 tons of coal last year. This is due primarily to the lack of scientific regulations of the process of mining and next to the carelessness of operators of the lives of their employees. Criminal recklessness in the method of conducting the work in mines is too often exhibited in various parts of the country. Systematic instruction in methods of mining, such as has been begun in Pennsylvania, will do much

to lessen the fearful toll of life that the industry has heretofore exacted.

PUBLIC OPINION.

It is often said that there are no newspapers, and have not been for a long time, that largely influence public opinion. That the day of the editor who "manufactured public opinion" is past, never to return. What is it then that has created a new public opinion in the last few years? Was it solely the work of the magazines?

The truth is, as every man knows, that the questions today uppermost were not taken up by the magazines until months and years after the newspapers had been hammering away at them. So far as originality was concerned, there was nothing new in these magazine articles. The reform newspapers had presented every fact time and again in the editorial and news columns. What the magazines did was to place these ideas and facts on "my lady's reading table, printed on fine paper, accompanied by beautiful illustrations. But a public opinion had already been created that made it possible for them to be placed there, and the newspapers had done that work. Had the magazines published this matter before the work of the newspaper writers had prepared public opinion they would have been rejected in disgust.

It is the constant presentation of facts and the everyday comment of the editorial writer that creates public opinion. It is the cutting, sarcastic paragraph, the humorous allusion, the short, logical sentence that sticks in the mind of the reader, that persuades and convinces him. Even when he is convinced if the subject is not again brought to his attention for a month, all the spur to action has been lost.

The truth is that newspapers, daily and weekly, never before had half the influence on public opinion that they have today. It is the conscientious editor, who reads widely, keeps in touch with humanity at every point, from economics to society, from the organization of great industries to the recreations and sports of the people, who really guides and directs public opinion and he does it more today than ever before.—World-Herald.

MEXICO'S NEEDS.

A drastic reform in the franchise and a radical change in filling important state offices are necessary to satisfy the demands of the revolutionists in Mexico. Under the present system Diaz possesses almost as much power as an absolute monarch. The ballot is denied to a large proportion of the population, and the president appoints the governors of states and many other important officials in the various political divisions of the country. This permits practically an autocratic rule, which he has not failed to utilize.

It cannot be gainsaid that under the statesmanship of Diaz the Mexican republic has been brought from chaos into a fairly well regulated and governed country. But methods and conditions that were necessary and excusable when he assumed office are obsolete today. The country has vastly progressed in wealth and intelligence. Its people demand and are entitled to a much greater degree of freedom and a larger voice in the affairs of government. The examples of Cuba, Porto Rico, Panama, Santo Domingo, Venezuela and even Colombia are stirring the Mexican populace to an insistent demand for a broader field of liberty, freer speech and more stable laws.

Even President Diaz realizes that the time has come when Mexico must get rid of some of its Joseph G. Cannons.

It is now thought the commission bill will pass both houses without a doubt. But it is doubtful whether Plattsmouth will get in on the proposition or not, unless the population is lowered to 4,000.

John Bauer and John Schulof should be elected as members of the

school board, because they are both young men and will take an interest in matters pertaining to the welfare of our schools.

The democrats in the legislature are standing true to the pledges made at Grand Island, and when they go home they can do so with the satisfaction of knowing they have performed their duties faithfully.

Cast your optics over the ticket at the head of this paper and see if there is a name there that is not worthy of your support. We believe that when you read them over you will come to the conclusion that every one of them should be elected.

Otoe and Cass counties will probably constitute one senatorial district. Heretofore each county has been entitled to one senator and two representatives. Now they will be entitled to only one senator and a representative each.

William Shea, candidate for councilman in the Fifth ward, is a man well fitted for the place, as he has proved in the short time he has served by appointment from Mayor Sattler to fill out a vacancy. Mr. Shea is a nice man and should be elected in the Fifth ward by an overwhelming majority.

John Halstrom, candidate for councilman in the Third ward, is one of the best citizens in Plattsmouth. Reliable in all his undertakings, and his word as good as his bond, makes a representative of the people that can be depended upon in every action that is calculated to benefit Plattsmouth's interests.

From the present outlook and the sentiment expressed by the most of our business men, it would seem that Mayor Sattler's administration has been very satisfactory. That is simply why Mr. Sattler should be re-elected. Mayor Sattler has done his best for the interests of Plattsmouth—can anyone do more?

The legislature is going to have a hard time arranging the congressional districts to suit the politicians in the house and senate. A dozen different propositions have been submitted, with no agreement yet. The last effort was to place Saunders and Sarpy counties in the First district and leave Gage where it is. The taking on of these two counties will suit us pretty well.

That honesty is the best policy in trade is proving true in a good many cases lately. The dishonesty in putting off on the public cold storage eggs, poultry and meat as fresh goods has created a demand for a federal law to govern that trade and brand the date of storage upon them. The feeling already created against cold storage products is so great that it has already bankrupted some concerns engaged in that business.

An anti-horse thief society, organized in a school house in Clark county, Missouri, fifty-seven years ago, is still in a flourishing condition and has at present 40,000 members scattered in several states. It is doing effective work in bringing sinners, if not to repentance, into the court for trial. It never resorts to lynch law. Recently it has offered its services to the Kansas and Oklahoma bankers to aid in exterminating the bank robbers.

"GOOD FOR JUDSON HARMON."

One of the most persistent assailants of Governor Harmon of Ohio has been an Ohio newspaper syndicate which controls and edits a considerable number of newspapers throughout the country, including the Omaha Daily News. That syndicate has for months loaded down the news and editorial columns of its newspapers with articles denying that Governor Harmon is a good democrat, a genuine progressive, and asserting, instead, that he is a reactionary and standpatter, and that he is the preferred "Wall street candidate for the presidency."

It is therefore highly significant to find that syndicate giving currency to a remarkable editorial in which, in effect, it renounces its enmity to the able democratic governor of Ohio and admits him as a rightful member in the progressive fold. This is the editorial as published in the Omaha News for March 24:

Governor Harmon of Ohio has hitherto been appraised as a stalwart reactionary, but the record he is making in the present session of the legislature compels some revision of this estimate.

He is working for the Oregon plan of electing United States senators, a state-wide primary, non-partisan judiciary, the initiative and referendum, workman's compensation, shorter workday for women, corrupt practices act, uniform school books, election of delegates to the constitutional convention on a non-partisan ballot, woman's reformatory, public utilities commission, Massachusetts ballot in all save national and state elections, and radical reform in taxation.

Good for Judson Harmon! He may want to be president, but that's legitimate. And he may be moving on progressive lines because an overwhelming majority of the people is progressively disposed, but that also is legitimate. A governor or president who does what the people want because the people want it, isn't dangerous.

It is a pleasure to see substantial justice done a great and loyal democrat from a progressive quarter that hitherto has assailed him most violently. In all Governor Harmon's long and honorable public career there is nothing that shows him in any other light than as a genuine democrat. The country will not soon forget his courageous attitude when he was engaged by President Roosevelt, to represent the government in the rebate cases. He took his stand squarely on the doctrine that "guilt is personal," and asserted that the only way to break up corporate rascality is to punish the man highest up, who is responsible, rather than to attempt to fine the corporation. And standing on that platform he dared to brave the master of Wall street, Pierpont Morgan himself, in his lair, and to go to the president's own cabinet for the responsible party, when he recommended that Secretary Morton, a financial and personal intimate of Morgan's, be prosecuted as the man who was responsible for Santa Fe rebating.

A tool of Wall street, a willing agent of "The System," doesn't do business that way. And though Judson Harmon was obliged to retire from the case, because his radicalism was too pronounced for Theodore Roosevelt, the doctrine he then laid down has grown with the passing of the years, and today progressives everywhere are asserting, with him, that guilt is personal and that the man, not the corporation, must be sought out and punished.

Judson Harmon's record as governor of Ohio has been consistently and fearlessly progressive. He has been the aggressive and relentless enemy of the grafters who disgraced his state, a crusader against reckless public extravagance, against corporation domination of state politics, and the record of his first term was so pleasing to the people of Ohio that they re-elected him by more than 100,000 majority, though the president and almost his entire cabinet took a hand in the campaign against him.

The record that Harmon has been making through the last winter is fairly stated in the News editorial above quoted, and the World-Herald is glad to reproduce it in simple justice to a man who has served the democratic party and the people of his state and nation well and loyally. The mere fact that he is favorably spoken of as a possible candidate for the presidency and that many other good democrats have another choice should not serve as an excuse why Judson Harmon should be unfairly discredited in the house of his friends. He deserves the same just and kindly treatment that do Woodrow Wilson, Champ Clark, Governor Folk, Governor Marshall and other splendid democrats who have been

mentioned for this high honor.—World-Herald.

The Canadian treaty once ratified free trade with Mexico should be the next step.

Every man entitled to a vote should turn out and cast a ballot next Tuesday.

"Springlike," the weather forecast says, which may mean any one of a dozen things.

Better make the most of these enjoyable days. Congress will assemble next Tuesday.

The Easter bonnet will be all the rage pretty soon, and the "old man" will feel the effects of it.

California's effort to have the recall made applicable to judges looks like an attempt to deprive the Southern Pacific of one of its best assets.

The non-partisan board bill has passed the senate. Now give us the non-partisan judiciary and Nebraska will be right up-to-date with other states.

The lower house of the legislature recommends a closed primary, in incorporating national primary provisions. The people demand a sensible primary law.

The deadlocks in the senatorial contests in Iowa, Colorado and New York still remain locked, with not the least probability of breaking the locks, unless it be the one in Iowa.

Carrie Nation seems to have at Havelock excellent foundation for suit for infringement of her copyright, although it does not appear that a hatchet was used in the feminine raid upon that social club.

The primary election law is what now seems to be worrying many members of the legislature. There is no use to worry on this score. It could not be made any worse than the present law, so fire away, gentlemen.

John P. Sattler has made as good a mayor as the city ever could boast of. He has been an incessant worker for everything that was good for Plattsmouth. He should be re-elected because he has proved faithful to the trust reposed in him.

The Pennsylvania and New York Central roads have been fined an aggregate of \$55,000 for granting rebates to the Standard Oil company. If it is illegal to grant a rebate, is it not so to solicit one? Is a briber any less guilty than the one who accepts the bribe?

Somehow the ladies do not appear to have taken much interest in the reciprocity question, although it is understood that it will have a depressing effect upon the high cost of living. Nobody has yet shown that it will have any effect upon the cost or abundance or charm of Easter bonnets.

Carl G. Fricke is one of the most competent business young men in Plattsmouth, and in serving as city treasurer in the past two years he has fully demonstrated this fact. The people are generally pretty well satisfied with an official that has performed his duties as well as Carl Fricke, and this being the case they are contented to "let well enough alone."

It is pleasing to know that the last dollar needed for the erection of a memorial to Grover Cleveland at Princeton was subscribed on the anniversary of his birth, March 18th. But the memory of Cleveland needs no monument for its perpetuation. His deeds will live long after all earthly structures have crumbled into dust.

Baby won't suffer five minutes with croup if you apply Dr. Thomas' Electric Oil at once. It acts like magic.